

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claim 1 (currently amended) A breathable, bead/adhesive/void space padding material for athletic equipment wherein said material is comprised of a plurality of adhesive coated, plastic beads having average diameters between about 1 and about 10 mm and of which at least 50 percent are at least 50 percent coated with an adhesive that is cured from a liquid state (wherein the adhesive is not in a melted state) while in initial contact with the beads, and wherein a cured form of said adhesive has a hardness ranging from about Shore A 20 to about Shore A 95 and is used in a quantity such that it represents between about 20 and about 80 weight percent of the padding material and thereby serving to create a system of void spaces that constitutes from about 10 to about 40 volume percent the total volume of said padding material.

Claim 2 (cancelled)

Claim 3 (previously amended) The padding material of claim 1 wherein said adhesive coated, plastic beads are inelastic.

Claim 4 (previously amended) The padding material of claim 1 wherein said adhesive coated, plastic beads are elastic.

Claims 5 and 6 (cancelled)

Claim 7 (previously amended) The padding material of claim 1 wherein the adhesive coated, plastic beads have diameters ranging from about 1 mm to about 3 mm.

Claims 8-19 (cancelled)

Claim 20 (currently amended) The padding material of claim 1 wherein bead components of said adhesive coated, plastic beads are corona plasma treated.

Claims 21 and 22 (cancelled)

Claim 23 (currently amended) The padding material of claim 1 wherein bead components of said adhesive coated, plastic beads are plasma jet treated.

Claims 24-35 (cancelled)

Claim 36 (new) A breathable, bead/adhesive/void space padding material for medical equipment that contacts the human body wherein said material is comprised of a plurality of adhesive coated, plastic beads having average diameters between about 1 and about 10 mm and of which at least 50 percent are at least 50 percent coated with an adhesive that is cured from a liquid state (wherein the adhesive is not in a melted state) while in initial contact with the beads, and wherein a cured form of said adhesive has a hardness ranging from about Shore A 20 to about Shore A 95 and is used in a quantity such that it represents between about 20 and about 80 weight percent of the padding material and thereby serving to create a system of void spaces that constitutes from about 10 to about 40 volume percent the total volume of said padding material.

Claim 37 (new) The padding material of claim 36 wherein said adhesive coated, plastic beads are inelastic.

Claim 38 (new) The padding material of claim 36 wherein said adhesive coated, plastic beads are elastic.

Claim 39 (new) The padding material of claim 36 wherein the adhesive coated, plastic beads have diameters ranging from about 1 mm to about 3 mm.

Claim 40 (new) The padding material of claim 36 wherein bead components of said adhesive coated, plastic beads are corona plasma treated.

Claim 41 (new) The padding material of claim 36 wherein bead components of said adhesive coated, plastic beads are plasma jet treated.

Claim 42 (new) A breathable, bead/adhesive/void space construction material comprised of a plurality of adhesive coated, plastic beads having average diameters between about 1 and about 10 mm and of which at least 50 percent are at least 50 percent coated with an adhesive that is cured from a liquid state (wherein the adhesive is not in a melted state) while in initial contact with the beads, and wherein a cured form of said adhesive has a hardness ranging from about Shore A 20 to about Shore A 95 and is used in a quantity such that it represents between about 20 and about 80 weight percent of the padding material and thereby serving to create a system of void spaces that constitutes from about 10 to about 40 volume percent the total volume of said padding material.

Claim 43 (new) The padding material of claim 42 wherein said adhesive coated, plastic beads are inelastic.

Claim 44 (new) The padding material of claim 42 wherein said adhesive coated, plastic beads are elastic.

Claim 45 (new) The padding material of claim 42 wherein the adhesive coated, plastic beads have diameters ranging from about 1 mm to about 3 mm.

Claim 46 (new) The padding material of claim 42 wherein bead components of said adhesive coated, plastic beads are corona plasma treated.

Claim 47 (new) The padding material of claim 42 wherein bead components of said adhesive coated, plastic beads are plasma jet treated.

Claim 48 (new) A breathable, bead/adhesive/void space packaging material comprised of a plurality of adhesive coated, plastic beads having average diameters between about 1 and about 10 mm and of which at least 50 percent are at least 50 percent coated with an adhesive that is cured from a liquid state (wherein the adhesive is not in a melted state) while in initial contact with the beads, and wherein a cured form of said adhesive has a hardness ranging from about Shore A 20 to about Shore A 95 and is used in a quantity such

that it represents between about 20 and about 80 weight percent of the padding material and thereby serving to create a system of void spaces that constitutes from about 10 to about 40 volume percent the total volume of said padding material.

Claim 49 (new) The padding material of claim 48 wherein said adhesive coated, plastic beads are inelastic.

Claim 50 (new) The padding material of claim 48 wherein said adhesive coated, plastic beads are elastic.

Claim 51 (new) The padding material of claim 48 wherein the adhesive coated, plastic beads have diameters ranging from about 1 mm to about 3 mm.

Claim 52 (new) The padding material of claim 48 wherein bead components of said adhesive coated, plastic beads are corona plasma treated.

Claim 53 (new) The padding material of claim 48 wherein bead components of said adhesive coated, plastic beads are plasma jet treated.

Claim 54 (new) A breathable, bead/adhesive/void space air filter material comprised of a plurality of adhesive coated, plastic beads having average diameters between about 1 and about 10 mm and of which at least 50 percent are at least 50 percent coated with an adhesive that is cured from a liquid state (wherein the adhesive is not in a melted state) while in initial contact with the beads, and wherein a cured form of said adhesive has a hardness ranging from about Shore A 20 to about Shore A 95 and is used in a quantity such that it represents between about 20 and about 80 weight percent of the padding material and thereby serving to create a system of void spaces that constitutes from about 10 to about 40 volume percent the total volume of said padding material.

Claim 55 (new) The padding material of claim 54 wherein said adhesive coated, plastic beads are inelastic.

Claim 56 (new) The padding material of claim 54 wherein said adhesive coated, plastic beads are elastic.

Claim 57 (new) The padding material of claim 54 wherein the adhesive coated, plastic beads have diameters ranging from about 1 mm to about 3 mm.

Claim 58 (new) The padding material of claim 54 wherein bead components of said adhesive coated, plastic beads are corona plasma treated.

Claim 59 (new) The padding material of claim 54 wherein bead components of said adhesive coated, plastic beads are plasma jet treated.

Claim 60 (new) A breathable, bead/adhesive/void space padding material for mechanical equipment wherein said material is comprised of a plurality of adhesive coated, plastic beads having average diameters between about 1 and about 10 mm and of which at least 50 percent are at least 50 percent coated with an adhesive that is cured from a liquid state (wherein the adhesive is not in a melted state) while in initial contact with the beads, and wherein a cured form of said adhesive has a hardness ranging from about Shore A 20 to about Shore A 95 and is used in a quantity such that it represents between about 20 and about 80 weight percent of the padding material and thereby serving to create a system of void spaces that constitutes from about 10 to about 40 volume percent the total volume of said padding material.

Claim 61 (new) The padding material of claim 60 wherein said adhesive coated, plastic beads are inelastic.

Claim 62 (new) The padding material of claim 60 wherein said adhesive coated, plastic beads are elastic.

Claim 63 (new) The padding material of claim 60 wherein the adhesive coated, plastic beads have diameters ranging from about 1 mm to about 3 mm.

Claim 64 (new) The padding material of claim 60 wherein bead components of said adhesive coated, plastic beads are corona plasma treated.

Claim 65 (new) The padding material of claim 60 wherein bead components of said adhesive coated, plastic beads are plasma jet treated.

Claim 66 (new) A breathable, bead/adhesive/void space padding material for perishable goods wherein said material comprised of a plurality of adhesive coated, plastic beads having average diameters between about 1 and about 10 mm and of which at least 50 percent are at least 50 percent coated with an adhesive that is cured from a liquid state (wherein the adhesive is not in a melted state) while in initial contact with the beads, and wherein a cured form of said adhesive has a hardness ranging from about Shore A 20 to about Shore A 95 and is used in a quantity such that it represents between about 20 and about 80 weight percent of the padding material and thereby serving to create a system of void spaces that constitutes from about 10 to about 40 volume percent the total volume of said padding material.

Claim 67 (new) The padding material of claim 66 wherein said adhesive coated, plastic beads are inelastic.

Claim 68 (new) The padding material of claim 66 wherein said adhesive coated, plastic beads are elastic.

Claim 69 (new) The padding material of claim 66 wherein the adhesive coated, plastic beads have diameters ranging from about 1 mm to about 3 mm.

Claim 70 (new) The padding material of claim 66 wherein bead components of said adhesive coated, plastic beads are corona plasma treated.

Claim 71 (new) The padding material of claim 66 wherein bead components of said adhesive coated, plastic beads are plasma jet treated.